

IN THE HOUSE.

What Has Been Done During the Past Week

NO ADDITIONAL CIRCUITS.

Salaries for County Officers Instead of Fees. Several Other Bills Taken Up and Passed or Killed

The House of Representatives spent the entire morning Monday in the discussion of Mr. Patton's bill, which was introduced at the instance of the city council of Columbia, looking towards the extension of the city limits of Columbia. The cardinal feature of the measure was that the election should be left to the qualified electors of the territory desired annexation, and not to the freehold voters. The bill was finally indefinitely postponed.

MAGISTRATES' BILL. Mr. Ashley's bill regulating the granting of bail by magistrates was given its third reading in the House Tuesday. The provisions of the bill are:

Section 1. When any magistrate commits a party to jail for a bailable offense such magistrate shall state on commitment the amount of recognizance required, upon entering into which the party shall be released from custody, and upon entering into such recognizance before any magistrate of the county such party shall be released from the custody of the jailer.

Section 2. Any magistrate or clerk of the court of the county in which the party is imprisoned, when demanded by such party, shall take the recognizance without extra compensation.

IS AN ALDERMAN AN OFFICER?

Mr. Duke's bill, directed against municipal officers taking contracts was given its third reading in the House Tuesday. The bill provides:

That no municipal officer shall take a contract to perform work or furnish material for the municipal corporation of which he is an officer, and no such officer shall receive any compensation on any contract for said purpose.

Section 3. That any person violating the provisions of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by fine or imprisonment in the discretion of the court before whom such conviction is had.

SALARIES FOR COUNTY OFFICERS.

On Wednesday Mr. H. K. Jenkins, of Berkeley, called up his bill relative to the fees and salaries of county officers. He urged that his bill was in conformity with the spirit of the constitution. His bill provided a scale of prices. In Berkeley salaries were paid in lieu of fees and the plan was found to work admirably. There is no longer any stocking of the jails. In 1893 he had the good fortune to introduce and have passed the salary bill for Berkeley County. The grand jury found that the county saved \$4,000 a year and he wanted the remainder of the State to share in the benefits of the plan. If an office is made worth \$20,000 the holder is willing to spend a great deal to get the office. The bill can be amended; his classification is according to the taxable property and population. His proposition to have all salaries fixed was intended simply to carry out the constitution. At the instance of Mr. Jenkins a committee of one member from each delegation was elected by the delegation to meet at once and report a bill before Tuesday next fixing salaries for all county officers in lieu of fees. The committee is made up as follows: Abbeville, Daniel; Aiken, B. L. Anderson; Prince Georges, Black; Barrow, Patterson; Beaufort, Lockwood; Berkeley, Jenkins; Charleston, Siskler; Cherokee, McGraw; Chester, Marion; Chesterfield, Stevenson; Clarendon, Hill; Colleton, Hill; Darlington, Floyd; Dorchester, Wimberly; Edgefield, J. L. Smith; Fairfield, Johnston; Florence, Ragdale; Georgetown, Pyatte; Greenville, McGraw; Greenwood, Magill; Hampton, Thomas; Horry, Smith; Kershaw, Winkler; Lancaster, Brantley; Laurens, J. W. Smith; Lexington, Sharp; Marion, Montgomery; Marlboro, McGraw; Montgomery, Moore; Oconee, D. M. Orangeburg, Moss; Pickens, Robinson; Richland, Hopkins; Spartanburg, Sanders; Saluda, Langham; Sumter, Young; Union, Lyle; Williamsburg, Gambrell; York, McDowell.

INSURANCE BILL PASSED.

Mr. Hendrick's bill to make certain changes in the insurance policies was taken up and passed. The bill reads as follows:

Section 1. That any person, firm, corporation or association writing insurance policies on the legal reserve plan may not extend to the insured the option provided by Section 1 of this act. Provided, that there shall be printed in red ink in bold and conspicuous letters in each application for a policy written on that plan, or on a separate slip of paper attached thereto, and signed by the insured, the following waiver: "It is understood and agreed that the policy to be issued on this application will not contain the cash surrender option and the loan option required by the statute law of the State of the South Carolina, and the insured hereby waives the right to said options."

SCHOOL BOOKS AT COST.

The committee's substitute for Mr. Dowling's bill relative to supplying school text-books and other materials to pupils attending the free public schools of the county, for cash, at actual cost or exchange prices, and shall be used for no other purpose, and in no other manner and places where said school text-books are kept for sale shall be deemed depositories, under the control of the State, as provided in the 7th article, or provision, in the contract made in 1893 with the publishers of school text-books.

Section 4. That the county superintendent of education in every county in the State, except Lexington County, be, and is hereby, required to keep his office open each day of the week for one week prior to the time appointed for the school to open in his county, and for one week immediately thereafter, and for at least one day in each week during the remainder of the school term for the convenience of those wishing to purchase school books." The bill applies only to such counties as have school book funds.

A PROTECTION AGAINST FRAUDS.

Mr. Bease's bill to require a disinterested witness to chattel mortgages came up for consideration. Mr. Bease said he was asked to introduce the bill. He had seen chattel mortgages, said to cover a clock or machines, to cover the cow or horse or chickens. All he wanted was to protect these poor people who were imposed upon. There ought to be some protection against these scoundrels who get all these mortgages. His bill also required the recording of the chattel mortgage within ten days.

Representative Bolts, the only colored member, said he knew the wiles of these agents. The agreement should be taken to some disinterested party to read. He related how the agent of an Illinois firm went out in Georgetown County and secured mortgages for clocks and included mattresses, pillows and everything in a house. The bill would save a great deal for his people and begged that the bill be passed. The bill was then ordered to its third reading as follows:

Section 1. That all persons who take bills of sale and chattel mortgages to secure the payment for their goods, wares or merchandise, and they are hereby, required to have one disinterested witness thereto who can read and write, and before the execution of such bills of sale or chattel mortgages the same shall be read to the party or parties signing the said bills of sale and chattel mortgages; and to have the same recorded within thirty days.

Section 2. That any such bill of sale or chattel mortgage, the execution of which does not comply with the provisions of this act, shall be null and void, and of no effect.

NO ADDITIONAL CIRCUITS.

The House of Representatives disposed of Mr. Moss' bill providing two additional circuits, killing it by a vote of 60 to 39. The bill was fully discussed. The following is the vote on the motion to indefinitely postpone the bill:

Yea—Speaker Gary, Ashley, Bailey, Bell, Black, Bease, Coughman, Colcock, DeBruhl, Doney, Dowling, Eldred, Estridge, Floyd, Gault, Gantt, Graham, Henderson, Hill, Hollis, Hopkins, W. J. Johnson, Lyles, Mann, Manning, Marion, Laban, Mauldin, McLaurin, Means, Miley, Mobley, Moss, Nettles, Purifoy, E. B. Ragsdale, Richards, George W. Richardson, Henry B. Richardson, J. B. Robinson, G. E. Rosinon, C. P. Sanders, E. L. Sanders, Sawyer, Seabrook, W. H. Thomas, Wharton, Wimberly, W. H. Woodward, Young—60.

Nay—Brent, Bates, Blythe, Bolts, Brantley, Brown, Coughman, Crum, Dean, Epps, N. G. Evans, Gadsden, Hoffmeyer, Hawkins, Lockwood, Lofton, McCoy, McGraw, McDougall, McLaurin, McIntosh, Mitchell, Montgomery, Moss, Patterson, Patton, Prince, E. B. Ragsdale, C. E. Rosinon, C. P. Sanders, E. L. Sanders, Sawyer, Seabrook, W. H. Thomas, Wharton, Wimberly, W. H. Woodward, Young—39.

The members paired were Mr. McDowell, nay, with Mr. Stevenson, ay; Mr. Sharpe, ay, with Mr. Siskler, nay; Mr. McDill, ay, with Mr. Fairley, nay; Mr. Strout, ay, with Mr. Duke, nay. The last named in each pair was absent.

PASSED AND KILLED.

This was the fate of two important bills in the House of Representatives Friday. The first was a bill to exempt graduates of the South Carolina Medical College at Charleston from examination by the State medical board. The bill as it passed was so amended that it exempted the graduates of all other medical colleges in other States which the State board may consider reputable.

The second bill, which was killed, was the anti-cigarette bill. The first attempt to kill the bill failed, but when it was amended so as to admit the importation of cigarettes the house changed its friendly attitude and killed the bill.

A kingdom for a cure? You need not pay so much. A twenty-five cent bottle of L. L. & K. Will drive all away. See ad. and try it—never fails.

SPION KOP CAPTURED

The British Gets the Best of the Boers for Once.

The British war office has issued the following dispatch from Spearman's camp, dated Jan. 25, 12.10 a. m.:

"Gen. Warren's troops last night occupied Spion Kop, surprising the small garrison, who fled. It has been held by us all day, though we were heavily attacked, especially by a very annoying shell fire. I fear our casualties are considerable and I have to inform you with regret that Gen. Woodgate was dangerously wounded. Gen. Warren is of the opinion that he has rendered the enemy's position untenable. The men are splendid."

Among the killed on the British side was Gen. Woodgate, Gen. Buller's phrase, "the men are splendid," thrills England with pride and confidence. His taking and holding Spion Kop are considered permanent advantages. A London dispatch says the jubilation over Gen. Warren's accomplishment in capturing Spion Kop Tuesday night is chastened by the realization that his success is only provisional, as it appears clear from Gen. Buller's dispatch that the Boers fully recognize the strategic importance of Spion Kop and at the time his message was sent off they had not abandoned the hope of recapturing the position. Nevertheless, a heavy load of anxiety has been removed from the nation and there is general expectation that, as the British have succeeded in keeping the hill all day long, they will manage to retain it until Gen. Warren plans enough troops to it to dominate the Boer trenches right and left. There is the usual disposition here to exaggerate the importance of the point scored, but the best informed people realize that Buller has a task ahead of him calling for the most dogged persistence and unflinching attacks, and that the difficulties will increase as the position develops.

THE BRITISH FA'L BACK.

The British war office at London posted the following dispatch from Gen. Buller, dated Spearman's Camp, Thursday, Jan. 25, noon:

"Gen. Warren's garrison, I am sorry to say, I find this morning had been in the night abandoned Spion Kop."

A dispatch from London says seven days of fighting have left the main Boer positions intact and Gen. Buller's army 706 men weaker, according to the official casualty lists, which seemingly do not include the Spion Kop losses; as those last forwarded do not mention Gen. Woodgate's wounding.

England is possessed by a depressing sense of failure, though not a word in criticism of her generals and soldiers is uttered. Not much effort is made to place a happy construction upon Gen. Buller's bare 18 words telling of the retreat from Spion Kop, and there is an uneasy impression abroad that worse news is yet to come.

THE SUN'S TOTAL ECLIPSE.

Professor F. H. Bigelow's Interesting Talk of the Phenomenon.

Prof. F. H. Bigelow has written an interesting statement of the total eclipse of the sun May 28, 1900. The path of the shadow, he says, will begin at sunrise over the Pacific ocean just to the west of Mexico, and extend thence north-eastward over the Southern States from New Orleans to Norfolk, crossing the middle portions of the North Atlantic to Portugal and terminating near the northern end of the Red Sea at sunset. The location of the shadow in the United States is remarkable for its convenient accessibility to a multitude of people. He estimates that more than half a million persons will see the total eclipse of more or less duration from their homes, and many more will take advantage of the opportunity to see the event of a lifetime. Educators should encourage their students to see it, and he suggests it would be a popular thing for the railroads to arrange for excursions to the cities and localities affording the most favorable opportunities for a sight, as there are good hotel accommodations throughout all the sections affected. The United States Weather Bureau, which has been conducting a cloud survey of the region, predicts the chances for fair weather as almost certain in Georgia and Alabama. The track will pass over Mobile, Montgomery, Macon, Milledgeville, Augusta and Columbus, a little south of Atlanta.

Loans to Counties.

The following statement of loans made to counties by the State sinking fund commission since the passage of the act making such loans is from the commissioner's annual report:

Marion	6,000 00
Williamsburg	5,500 00
Quincy	4,000 00
Newberry	4,000 00
Fairfield	7,957 00
Dorchester	4,000 00
Pickens	3,714 00
Lancaster	4,800 00
Clarendon	3,000 00
Anderson	22,306 67
Greenwood	12,166 67
Marlboro	3,000 00
Madison	5,000 00
Darlington	25,000 00
Abbeville	
Total	\$113,084 00

These loans draw five per cent interest, and each of the above counties owe from six to twelve months interest.

A Big Moonshine Plant.

A fire in the basement of the five-story brick house at 89 Madison street, New York, Wednesday brought to light an illicit distillery capable of producing more than 50 gallons a day. The place has been under surveillance for some time. A man who gave his name as Samuel Freeman, rented the basement for a paint shop, which he used only at night. Tenants noticed a peculiar odor, which permeated the entire building. The fire was caused by the extreme heat setting fire to the unprotected walls. Freeman tried to extinguish it, but failing, turned in an alarm and disappeared, together with two confederates. Internal revenue authorities have hopes of arresting all three soon. The seizure amounted to 100 gallons copper still, one copper cooling pan, a 20-gallon doubler, a galvanized iron condenser, 20 barrels of sugar mash and 100 gallons of spirits.

THE DISPENSARY.

The Senate Refuse to Put State Officials on Board.

IS IT UNCONSTITUTIONAL?

The Graydon Bill, Which Is Endorsed by the Friends of the Dispensary, Passes the Senate.

Sensor Graydon's dispensary bill was taken up in the Senate on Wednesday. When the reading was completed Senator Sheppard offered an amendment making the salary of the commissioner \$1,900 instead of \$3,000.

Sensor Graydon called attention to the provision requiring the commissioner to give bond in the sum of \$75,000 in three surety companies. He would have to pay about \$500 for these bonds. The idea of having bonds in surety companies was that the companies would examine his books several times a year and detect anything wrong, which might escape the State officers.

In reply to Senator Appelt, Senator Graydon said the treasurer gives a bond of \$90,000, but it can be a personal bond.

Sensor Barnwell said he was on record in 1890 as favoring a high salary for the commissioner. While opposed to the law, he thought they ought to do the best they can as long as it stands, and he favored getting a good man as possible.

The commissioner under the original dispensary law and he would have charge of a million dollar business. As for himself, he would not take the place for \$25,000 or \$100,000 a year. The position was open to great temptations, and even if a man is pure as ice he is liable to be suspected of dishonesty.

The salary of \$3,000 is not too large for a man who has to occupy the place with its temptations and responsibilities.

Sensor Sheppard said it was not the question whether the salary of the commissioner was too small, as several had stated, but whether the proposed salary of the commissioner was too large.

If there is any virtue in a surety bond, let the expenses be paid out of the dispensary fund. He did not see why a personal bond should not be sufficient for the commissioner as well as the treasurer. Since 1890 there had not been a loss through the treasurer.

There was no reason why the commissioner should be of higher character than the treasurer or any other officer. They are all supposed to be honorable men. If this bill passes with a salary of \$1,900, when the election takes place, you will find several candidates for the place.

Sensor Liderton recalled the action of the legislature in cutting the salary of Commissioner Trazier, whereupon Mr. Trazier resigned. A man who would take the place at \$1,900 and pay \$500 for the bond would be a man who had never done anything or had just made a bare living. The commissioner was different from the other State officers. A man not worth over \$1,900 is not fit to take the place.

Sensor Archer moved to lay Senator Sheppard's amendment on the table and the vote on Senator Archer's motion was 27 yeas to 10 nays, so the senate agreed to lay the amendment on the table, thus leaving the salary at \$3,000. The vote was as follows:

Yea—Aldrich, Alexander, Archer, Barnwell, Bowen, G. W. Brown, W. A. Brown, Hannon, Crosson, DeLass, Graydon, Hay, Henderson, Liderton, Love, Manning, Marshall, Maule, Mayfield, McDermott, Mower, Standler, Suddath, Talbird, Wallace, Walker, Williams—27.

Nay—Appelt, Dennis, Glenn, Gruber, Hough, Ragsdale, Sarratt, Sheppard, Sullivan, Walker—10.

Sensor Sheppard offered an amendment to section 2 striking out the words: "A board of control is hereby created which shall consist of the comptroller general, the secretary of state and the state superintendent of education."

Sensor Sheppard said he thought it ought to be known whether the senate agreed that the State officers should be on the board of control. If the bill is to be passed, it should be perfected and the senate should determine what it wishes.

Sensor Mayfield said he agreed with Senator Sheppard. He did not think any State officers should be on the board. They would not be removable by the governor as outsiders would under his plan. Experience had proved that the board had assumed powers which do not belong to it and had undertaken to run the whole State. The board should be left to the people.

A plan similar to the one proposed in the bill had been tried and failed. It is impossible to put ambitious men, constitutional officers, in these places, who would not use their powers to forward their interests. Those who favored the dispensary law at first are not bound to support it in all its phases. It has been a success in regulating the liquor traffic but it should be divorced from politics. The management of the dispensary should be responsible to the legislature.

In reply to Senator Mayfield he said it would be impossible for these officers to use their power to further personal ambitions. They only have to purchase the liquor once a month. They could not construct a political machine out of these powers. Their duties are hardly more than clerical. The failures of other plans cannot be used to measure this bill. He opposed the Mayfield plan of putting the governor on the board, as he had plenty to do and the board gives him power to remove the commissioner and county dispensers. If you do not put these officers on the board, who will you put on it?

Sensor Appelt said though he was not a lawyer, it was clear to him that the legislature has the right to abolish the board of control and devolve the duties on the board. He did not believe the people wanted to see any State officer on the board.

The yeas and nays were then taken on Senator Sheppard's amendment, which was carried by a vote of 36 yeas to one nay, which was Senator Graydon's lone vote, and the provision was there-

by stricken out, leaving the personnel of the board undetermined. Further discussion of the bill was then postponed until Thursday evening.

The discussion of the dispensary bill was resumed in the Senate Thursday evening. Senator Mayfield moved the adoption of his substitute, which reads as follows:

The governor, the chairman of the senate committee of finance, chairman of the house committee on ways and means shall be known as "directors of the dispensary." They shall meet ten days after the approval of the bill, elect a State dispenser to serve for two years at a salary of \$3,500. The directors shall be appointed by the Governor and shall be subject to removal by the Governor.

The directors shall award the bid to the lowest responsible bidder, who shall be publicly opened. The commissioners must give a bond of \$75,000. He shall appoint employees at salaries to be fixed by the directors and may discharge employees and report reasons to the directors. Liquors shall be furnished county dispensers at 10 per cent above purchase price. Retail price to consumers shall not exceed 50 per cent of the cost. The surplus shall go to the State for public schools and all other profits shall be made by county dispensers.

County dispensers shall be appointed by the Governor or recommendation of members of the general assembly and shall serve for one year.

After a great deal of discussion Senator Graydon moved to lay the Mayfield substitute on the table, but the Senate refused to do so by a vote of 21 to 17.

Sensor Sheppard then moved that section 2 of the Mayfield substitute, which made the Governor and other State officials, the board of control, be stricken out. This was adopted by the following vote:

Yea—Alexander, Appelt, Barnwell, Blakeney, Bowen, G. W. Brown, Crosson, Crosson, Dean, Dennis, Douglas, Glenn, Graydon, Gruber, Hay, Henderson, Hough, Liderton, Livingston, Manning, Marshall, McDermott, Mower, Sarratt, Sheppard, Standler, Suddath, Sullivan, Walker, Walker—30.

Nay—Aldrich, Archer, W. A. Brown, Love, Mauldin, Mayfield, Wallace, Williams—17.

Sensor Sheppard took the floor and said the senate had shown itself opposed to placing State officers on the board. The question now was simply the composition of the board. The merits of the dispensary itself were not under consideration at this time. He therefore, moved that the further consideration of the matter be dispensed with until Wednesday evening.

Sensor Mayfield moved to lay this on the table, but by a vote of 21 to 14 the senate refused to do so, and Senator Sheppard's motion was then carried, and the discussion ended for the evening.

PAPER PRICES GOING UP.

A Few Figures Showing How They Have Advanced.

Readers of newspaper may be interested in knowing that the price of the blank on which they are printed has been tilted 70 per cent. Other paper used in the printing trade has been increased greatly.

It is learned from The Typothetae and Platemaker that a meeting of the Typothetae (Master Printers' Association) held December 18th, at St. Louis, a discussion upon the increased cost of printing took place, and a committee was appointed to draw up a list of actual increases in printing and binding supplies within the past five months, the report to be a candid statement to be shown to the consumers of printed matter, blanks, books stationary, etc. The following is the list which is guaranteed absolutely correct:

Newspaper, 70 per cent.
R. R. Manila, 40 per cent.
Card stock, average, 20 per cent.
Book papers, for all grades of book and pamphlet work, 50 per cent.
Fine writing papers, 40 per cent.
Bond papers, average, 30 per cent.
Ledger papers, average 30 per cent.
Envelope, average, 40 per cent.
Binders' board, 16 per cent.
Lather, 10 to 25 per cent.
Duck, 20 per cent.
Wire, 30 per cent.
Gold leaf, 11 per cent.
Type and foundry sundries, 35 per cent.

These advances are authentic and represent the actual conditions today.

Child Labor Bill.

The State Senate killed Senator Marshall's child labor bill on Friday. The object of the bill was to prevent parents from putting their little children to work in the mills while they loafed about and lived on the money earned by the children. The bill was killed by the following vote:

Against the Bill—Alexander, Barnwell, Blakeney, Bowen, Crosson, Crosson, Dean, Dennis, Douglas, Glenn, Graydon, Gruber, Hay, Henderson, Hough, Love, Manning, Maule, Mayfield, McDermott, Sarratt, Sheppard, Standler, Suddath, Sullivan, Walker, Wallace, Walker, Williams—29.

For the Bill—Aldrich, Appelt, Archer, W. A. Brown, Liderton, Marshall, Ragsdale, Talbird—8.

Punctured by Bryan. Mr. Bryan says they are talking about the Philippines being able to furnish homes for the surplus population of the United States, when they already have over there 60 people to the square mile, while we have only 20 people to the square mile in the United States.

Fertilizers Used.

The consumption of fertilizers in the State during the past year would seem to have been nearly 250,000 tons, from the privilege tax on which the State has derived \$62,123.88 for the use of Clemson college.

HIGHER PRICES OF FERTILIZERS.

The Manager of the Trust Makes Some Explanations.

The following, credited to the Washington Star of January 21, clipped from The News and Courier of Wednesday. It is quite likely that it was printed in both these papers at the expense of the fertilizer men, who are naturally anxious to have their position favorably understood by the farmers. Whether all the alleged facts stated in the article are true, we are unable to say. It is our opinion that the confidence with which the fertilizer factories are naming higher prices is due at least in a measure to the trust agreement among them. The reader will draw his own conclusions.

"Now that the season for the shipment of fertilizers has arrived, the guano factories are on the eve of the busiest season of the year in that branch of business. The Virginia Carolina Chemical company's factories here—the Navassa factory and the Powers, Gibbs & Co., factory—are prepared to ship an output of 55,000 tons this season, the proportion being about two-thirds for the Navassa company and one third for the Powers, Gibbs & Co. factory.

"For the past month or more the Powers, Gibbs & Co. factory has been thoroughly overhauled and put in first class condition, so that now it is able to handle an increased output. The machinery has been put in such condition that the full capacity of the factory can be utilized, and the facilities for handling the product have also been increased. The Navassa factory is up to its usual efficiency, and both factories are in the best condition to manufacture and handle goods promptly.

"The feature, however, which will doubtless most concern the agricultural interests, is the material advance in the price of fertilizers this season. With the extension of prices generally on all manufacturers and products, the prices of fertilizers will follow suit.

"Mr. W. H. Malloy, manager of the Virginia Carolina Chemical company here, yesterday stated to a Star representative that the price of acid phosphate has advanced from 20 to 30 per cent. over last year's prices. This means an increase of \$2.25 to \$3.00 per ton. He says the increase is owing to the scarcity of phosphate rock, and a consequent increase of 20 to 30 per cent. in the price of rock, and also on account of an increase from 15 to 20 per cent. on the price of pyrites and brimstone, materials which enter into the production of acid goods, as sulphuric acid is manufactured from these materials. One cause for the advance on phosphate rock, he states, is the unprofitableness of former prices of rock. Owing to low prices only one company out of five engaged in developing the phosphate mines in Florida weathered the storm. The others were bankrupt in the business.

"As for ammoniated fertilizers, Mr. Malloy states that there has been an advance in price of from \$2 to \$2.50, or 20 to 30 per cent., due also to the advance in the price of phosphate rock and an increase of the price of material from which ammonia is derived. He remarked that generally speaking, the advance in prices of fertilizers may be due in part to the universal revival of business throughout the country.

"As a matter of interest, in this connection it may be stated that potash fertilizers have advanced 10 per cent. in price, the cost of kait being now \$1 per ton more than last year's price. As for cotton seed meal, the price, per ton, has increased from \$2.50 to \$3, according to the distance from producing and shipping points."

EXCURSION RATES.

Cheap Tickets to Many Places to be Sold by the Southern System.

The Southern Railway has announced the following excursion rates on account of several events to take place in various cities within the next few weeks:

On account of the annual convention of the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, of South Carolina at Charleston, S. C., February 13 to 14, tickets will be on sale February 11, limited for return to February 15. Rates from points named will be as follows: Abbeville, \$9.35; Augusta, \$20.00; Camden, \$6.35; Chester, \$7.90; Anderson, \$10.40; Columbia, \$5.85; Prosperity, \$7.15; Greenwood, \$6.60; Orangeburg, \$5.85; Rich Hill, \$9.40; Sumter, \$4.45; Spartanburg, \$10.00; Greenville, \$11.00; Seaboard, \$9.

On account of the annual spring meeting of the State Agricultural and Mechanical Society, at Columbia, S. C., tickets will be on sale February 5 to 7, with final return limit February 9. From points named rates will be as follows: Abbeville, \$5.05; Rich Hill, \$4.05; Blacksburg, \$5.65; Chester, \$4.25; Newberry, \$2.25; Sumter, \$2.25; Charleston, \$4.05; Anderson, \$5.85; Spartanburg, \$4.45; Greenwood, \$4.05.

On account of the annual State Convention of Young Men's Christian Association, at Greenwood, S. C., tickets will be on sale February 7 to 11, with final return limit February 13. Rate from Charleston \$6.00.

Tickets will be on sale as follows on the certificate plan, which is one full fare going and one-third of same for return:

For the National American Woman's Suffrage Convention, at Washington, D. C., February 8 to 14; rate going \$16.50.

On account of the National Anti-Trust Conference at Chicago, Ill., February 12 to 14; rate going \$25.

On account of the meeting of the Atlantic States Packing Association, at Detroit, Mich., February 12 to 17; rate going \$27.30.

On account of Continental Congress, Daughters of American Revolution at Washington, D. C., February 19; rate going \$16.50.

Christmas Dinner.

No ill effects need follow the eating of a big Christmas dinner if, after same, you take "Hilton's Life for the Liver and Kidneys." See a bottle.

This paper gives the latest news of any other paper in this county. Every family should have a copy of it in their home. Subscribe at once.